

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

--~~The An~~ image heating apparatus has a for heating an image formed on a recording material, comprising: first rotatable member; said first rotatable member contacting a second rotatable member, wherein the recording material bearing the image passes through a nip portion formed at a position between said the first rotatable member and said the second rotatable member; a heater heating means for heating said the first rotatable member, the heater having said heating means including a third rotatable member that is flexible and a temperature detecting element, wherein the third rotatable member contacts an outer peripheral surface of said the first rotatable member and with the third member, wherein the temperature detecting element elements is provided in an area of an inside surface said third rotatable member, wherein said the first rotatable member and said the third rotatable member contact contacts in the area; and control means a controller for controlling said the heater heating means based on detecting the temperature of said temperature detecting element elements.

Thus, the activation time can be shortened, and a scratch can be prevented from being made on the surface of the rotatable member contacting the toner image.--